

Minutes



Climate Protection Action Committee Monthly Appointee Meeting Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:30 a.m.



Present: Mary Pat Baldauf, Madison Buckles (Mayor's Fellow), Penny Cothran, John Epting, Gretchen Lambert, Zach Laprise, Bob Petrulis. Clint Shealy, Tamarina Warren, Marty White, Taylor Wright, Lori Ziolkowski.

Guests: Larry Cook, USC; Hamilton Davis, Southern Current, LLC; Darcy Everett, Matt Kisner, USC; Stacey Washington, SC Energy Office; Claire Windsor, USC.

Dr. Z. called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Meeting minutes for January 5, 2021 and February 2, 2021 were distributed for review with the agenda. Gretchen Lambert made a motion that both be adopted; Bob Petrulis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Z. then introduced Hamilton Davis, Director of Regulatory Affairs with Southern Current LLC to discuss Dominion SC's Voluntary Renewable Energy Program (VREP) before the Public Service Commission. Dr. Z. thanked him for his insight into the process, which CPAC has discussed at length due to possible impact on the City's Ready for 100 pledge.

Dr. Z. then recognized Dr. Matt Kisner, the lead contact for Climate Ready Columbia, a 2022 climate conference supported by the Ann Johnson Institute for Science, Technology and Society. Climate Ready Columbia will spotlight policy options to help the Columbia metropolitan area prepare for a changing climate and economy. It has three goals:

1. Sharing knowledge
2. Connection Building
3. Public Engagement

Dr. Kisner asked for CPAC's support and participation in the conference, and was met with an enthusiastic yes from the group. He is currently engaging a wide array of experts in other fields and municipalities to participate. When the group starts organizing logistics in September,

2021, he'd like for CPAC to send a designee for meetings. CPAC members provided additional groups for him to contact, including BPAC and Midlands Green Business program organizers.

Dr. Z. reminded the group that CPAC will host an Energy 101 webinar on Thursday, March 18 and asked Bob and Tameria for an update. They will meet with Mary Pat on Thursday morning to discuss technical logistics; Mary Pat shared a flier and Facebook event page and asked the group to help promote the event.

Gretchen Lambert discussed changes that City Council made to the proposed by-laws which basically allows the Voting Group to make officer and advisory recommendations, but asks that City Council get a say in approval. After reviewing the changes. Penny made a motion to approve them, seconded by Zach. The motion passed unanimously.

To provide continuity to CPAC, Gretchen then proposed the following term updates and appointment changes, which will ensure experienced leadership as terms change:

- John is moving to non-voting through the completion of his term in December 2021

The 7 remaining members are voting: Lori, Zach, Penny, Marty, Gretchen, Bob, Tameria. Terms and associated Council Members would roll as follows:

Group 1:

- Gretchen (District 4) 2nd term begins March 2021 and ends December 2023. New member starts December 2023.
- Tameria (At-Large 2: currently Duvall) 1st term began January 2021, second term begins December 2023 and ends December 2026. New member starts December 2026.

Group 2:

- Bob (District 2) 2nd term begins December 2021 and ends December 2024. New member starts December 2024.
- Lori (At-Large 1: currently Devine) 2nd term begins December 2021 and ends December 2024. New member starts December 2024.

Group 3:

- Marty (District 1) second term begins December 2022 and ends December 2025. New member starts December 2025.
- Zach (Mayor) second term begins December 2022 and ends December 2025. New member starts December 2025.

- Penny (District 3) second term begins December 2022 and ends December 2025. New member starts December 2025.

In staff updates, Interim Solid Waste Director Samantha Yager shared the following:

Recycling remains the same. Market prices for commodities fluctuate marginally. We've seen anywhere from \$10-\$20 per commodity fluctuations. Nothing that will dramatically affect our monthly costs. She will be doing an interview with Columbia Metropolitan Magazine this week to discuss the ins and outs of recycling.

Besides recycling, litter has been a hot topic. There has been a big rise in the amount of litter around the Midlands being attributed to a rise in use of takeout containers, to-go bags, etc. More people are also walking; Sunday, she saw a someone on Elmwood throw a McDonald's cup on the ground, even though there was a litter container within steps. The City runs two litter crews daily for main thoroughfares, however, she noted that we can all do our part to help. She encourages CPAC and the neighborhoods to participate in Great American Cleanup, a Keep the Midlands Beautiful cleanup program. Signups for the cleanup are now underway; KMB will provide registered groups with bags, litter sticks, vests, gloves, etc. More information is available at <https://keepthemidlandsbeautiful.org/gac/>.

Sustainability Facilitator Mary Pat Baldauf reported that she has been assisting with all of the CPAC activity and is also looking at a grant opportunity from the Center for Transportation and the Environment, who is reallocating DOE grant funds to local jurisdictions in Alabama, Georgia and/or South Carolina for ASAP purchase of alternative fuel vehicles and/or charging infrastructure. The solicitation can be found at <https://cte.tv/seafdp-rfp/>.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 a.m.

The next working meeting will be held on March 16, 8:30 a.m. via Zoom. Other upcoming meetings include April 6 and 21, both at 8:30 a.m.